

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 SY-05 ISO-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 PA-01
USIE-00 MCT-01 USSS-00 TRSE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 /054 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR
APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS
A/SY:DTLCHINSKY

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O P 202150Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, YO, US

SUBJECT: MURDER OF SLOBODA EDITOR

1. DRAGISA KASIKOVICH AND A NINE-YEAR OLD GIRL WERE
FOUND ON JUN 19 BRUTUALLY MURDERED IN THE OFFICES OF THE

NEWSPAPER SLOBODA, ORGAN OF THE SERBIAN NATIONAL DEFENSE
COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL HAS BLAMED YUGOSLAV SECRET POLICE,
AND CHICAGO PRESS ARE REPORTEDLY GIVING THIS HEAVY PLAY.

2. NEW YORK TIMES JUNE 20 REPORT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: ANTI-COMMUNIST EDITOR AND GIRL SLAIN IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, JUNE 19 (UPI) - AN EDITOR OF AN ANTI-COMMUNIST
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NEWSPAPER, "LIBERTY," AND A 9-YEAR-OLD GIRL WERE FOUND SHOT
TO DEATH EARLY TODAY IN THE NEWSPAPER'S OFFICE AT THE
SERBIAN NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL. THE NEWSPAPER IS PUB-
LISHED BY THE COUNCIL.

THE POLICE SAID THAT DRAGISA KASIKOVICH, 44, AND IVANKA
MILOSEVICH WERE EACH SHOT ONCE IN THE HEAD AND ONCE IN THE

CHEST. THE GIRL WAS THE DAUGHTER OF MR. KASIKOVICH'S GIRLFRIEND, THE POLICE SAID.

THE BODIES WERE DISCOVERED BY THE GIRL'S MOTHER, DRAGICA MILOSEVICH, ABOUT 4 A.M. AS SHE WAS RETURNING FROM HER JOB AS A WAITRESS. SHE TOLD THE POLICE THAT THE DOOR TO THE SMALL OFFICE WAS OPEN WHEN SHE ARRIVED.

A MAN WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEFENSE COUNCIL PHONED UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL TO ATTRIBUTE THE DEATHS TO YUGOSLAVIAN AGENTS. THE NEWSPAPER HAS BEEN OPPOSED TO THE REGIME OF PRESIDENT TITO OF YUGOSLAVIA. END TEXT.

3. INFORMATION JUST RECEIVED THROUGH SY REINFORCES POSSIBILITY OF DOMESTIC RATHER THAN POLITICAL MOTIVATION. CONTRARY TO INITIAL REPORTS, THE CORONER'S INVESTIGATION REVEALED NO GUNSHOT WOUNDS. BOTH VICTIMS HAD BEEN STABBED OVER 50 TIMES, POSSIBLY WITH SCISSORS, AND BOTH WERE BLUDGENED WITH BLUNT INSTRUMENT. THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF FORCED ENTRY. FINALLY, THE GIRL'S MOTHER, DIVORCED . -- FROM HER HUSBAND, HAD BEEN LIVING WITH KASIKOVICH POLICE ARE TRYING TO LOCATE HER HUSBAND, WHO REPORTEDLY LIVES IN WISCONSIN.

4. DEPARTMENT PRESS GUIDANCE CAUTIONED AGAINST GIVING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CREDENCE TO ALLEGATIONS MADE WITHOUT EVIDENCE AND STRESSED THAT THE MURDER IS UNDER LOCAL INVESTIGATION. WILL PROVIDE TEXT OF ANY DISCUSSION AT NOON BRIEFING.

5. THE FBI IS CLOSELY MONITORING INVESTIGATION. LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN CITIES WITH LARGE ETHNIC COMMUNITIES HAVE BEEN ALERTED, AND PROTECTIVE COVERAGE OF YUGOSLAV DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS HAS BEEN INSTITUTED BY LOCAL POLICE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TEXT, JOURNALISTS, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE143134
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMSEYMOUR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770220-0185
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770638/aaaabhnn.tel
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Message ID: 9863e779-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2090570
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MURDER OF SLOBODA EDITOR
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, YO, US, (KASIKOVICH, DRAGISA)
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9863e779-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009